

Iowa Department of Natural Resources Environmental Services Division

For Immediate Release

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CUT POWER LINE LEADS TO WASTEWATER BYPASS NEAR SOLON

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SOLON — A cut power line caused a power outage Friday that led to the Lakeview Knolls Homeowners Association sending untreated wastewater to Turkey Creek near Solon.

A resident cut a buried power line while digging a pond, leading to the power outage. The resident did not contact Iowa One Call to locate underground utilities before digging. With the power down, wastewater from the homeowners association bypassed any treatment. The untreated sewage flowed a quarter-mile from a lift station to Turkey Creek, which flows into the Coralville Reservoir and the Iowa River.

The association estimates that the bypass to the creek began around 3 p.m. Friday, sending 3,000 gallons of wastewater to the creek per day. The bypass ended Monday morning when repairs were completed.

The association will add lime to disinfect where the sewage ran over land.